	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
Notice of Allowability	10/004,013	HEATH ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Brian R. Gordon	1743	
The MAILING DATE of this communication appear All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RI of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313	(OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this apport or other appropriate communication GHTS. This application is subject to	plication. If not included will be mailed in due of	d Ourse THIS
1. This communication is responsive to <u>9-28-04</u> .			
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 3-14,16 and 18.			
3. \boxtimes The drawings filed on <u>28 September 2004</u> are accepted by	the Examiner.		
 4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority un a) All b) Some* c) None of the: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have 	been received.		
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority doc			on from the
International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).	The state of the s	· · ·	m nom die
* Certified copies not received:			
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" on noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONM THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.	of this communication to file a reply of ENT of this application.	complying with the requ	irements
5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submi INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which give	itted. Note the attached EXAMINER's reason(s) why the oath or declara	S AMENDMENT or NO tion is deficient.	TICE OF
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") mus (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Paper No./Mail Date Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1. each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the process of the pr	on's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-S Amendment / Comment or in the O	ffice action of	ack) of
 DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the depose attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT F 	sit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL m	· nust be submitted. No	te the
Attachment(s)			
1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	5. Notice of Informal Pa	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	152)
2. Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	6.	PTO-413),	
 Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08 Paper No./Mail Date 	3), 7. ⊠ Examiner's Amendm	ent/Comment	·
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit	8. 🛛 Examiner's Statemer	nt of Reasons for Allowa	ance
of Biological Material	9.		
			,
	•		ĺ

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the specification, amend paragraph [0042] as follows:

In other embodiments, other apparatuses for holding vessels such as vessel 112 within the locking arm 106 include by way of example only and not by way of limitation clamps, threads, clips, pins, and the like. It is sufficient that the vessels be held in the locking arm 112 106 so that if inverted, the vessels will not fall out of the locking arm 106.

Drawings

2. The drawings were received on September 28, 2004. These drawings are acceptable.

Allowable Subject Matter

- 3. Claims 3-14, 16, and 18 are allowed.
- 4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of record does not teach nor fairly suggest a device wherein the locking arm further comprises a plurality of vessel openings and a matching plurality of locking ports, each of the vessel openings sized to accommodate a vessel, and each of the locking ports capable of retaining the vessel in the locking arm.

Art Unit: 1743

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian R. Gordon whose telephone number is 571-272-1258. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, with 2nd and 4th F off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jill Warden can be reached on 571-272-1267. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

brg

Jill Warden Supervisory Patent Examiner Technology Center 1**700**